

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-9. Canceled.

10. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a phosphate glass, which comprises the step of charging a glass raw material into a molten glass in a heated vessel to melt the glass raw material, wherein an ~~oxygen~~oxidizing gas is bubbled in the molten glass and the glass raw material for the phosphate glass is charged into a position of the bubbling, and wherein free phosphorus generated by the decomposition of the glass raw material is oxidized with bubbles of the oxidizing gas.

11. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 10, wherein a metaphosphate compound is used as part of the glass raw material and a phosphate glass is melted.

12. Canceled.

13. Canceled.

14.-18. Canceled.

19. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 10, wherein the vessel is made of platinum.

20. (New) A process for producing a phosphate glass, which comprises the step of charging a glass raw material into a molten glass in a heated vessel to melt the glass raw material, wherein an oxidizing gas is bubbled in the molten glass and the glass raw material for the phosphate glass is charged into a position of the bubbling, and wherein a

glass raw material charging rate and/or a molten glass withdrawal rate are controlled so that the depth of the molten glass in a position where the glass raw material is adjusted to be 1.5 to 3 times as large as the a distance between a glass raw material charging port and a liquid surface of the molten glass.

21. (New) The process of claim 21, wherein a metaphosphate compound is used as part of the glass raw material and a phosphate glass is melted.

22. (New) The process of claim 21, wherein the vessel is made of platinum.

23. (New) A process for producing a fluorophosphate glass, which comprises the step of charging a glass raw material into a molten glass in a heated vessel to melt the glass raw material, wherein an oxidizing gas is bubbled in the molten glass and the glass raw material for the fluorophosphate glass is charged into a position of the bubbling, and wherein free phosphorus generated by the decomposition of the glass raw material is oxidized with bubbles of the oxidizing gas.

24. (New) The process of claim 23, wherein a metaphosphate compound is used as part of the glass raw material and a phosphate glass is melted.

25. (New) The process of claim 23, wherein the vessel is made of platinum.

26. (New) A process for producing a fluorophosphate glass, which comprises the step of charging a glass raw material into a molten glass in a heated vessel to melt the glass raw material, wherein an oxidizing gas is bubbled in the molten glass and the glass raw material for the fluorophosphate glass is charged into a position of the bubbling, and wherein a glass raw material charging rate and/or a molten glass withdrawal rate are

controlled so that the depth of the molten glass in a position where the glass raw material is adjusted to be 1.5 to 3 times as large as the a distance between a glass raw material charging port and a liquid surface of the molten glass.

27. (New) The process of claim 26, wherein a metaphosphate compound is used as part of the glass raw material and a phosphate glass is melted.

28. (New) The process of claim 26, wherein the vessel is made of platinum.